

REMARKS

Claims 3-11 and 14-17 are present in the instant application. At the outset, applicant gratefully acknowledges the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 3-6, 10, and 14-17. In the Office Action, Claim 13 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 4,385,252 to Butman, Jr, et al. (hereinafter, "Butman"). Claims 2, 7, 9 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly obvious over U.S. Pat. No. 5,175,396 to Emery, et al. (hereinafter, "Emery") in view of U.S. Pat. No. 4,908,347 to Denk (hereinafter, "Denk"). Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly obvious over Emery in view of Denk, and further in view of U.S. Pat. No. 3,014,139 to Shildneck (hereinafter, "Shildneck"). The Examiner also objects to claim 14 for a minor informality.

In response to the Office Action, by the above amendment, claims 2 and 13 are cancelled and claims 1 and 12 have previously been cancelled, all without disclaimer or prejudice to their subsequent reintroduction in this or a continuing application. Claims 3 and 4 have been amended into independent form. Claims 7-9 and 11 are amended to depend from claim 3.

Claim 14 is amended above to strike "hold" and insert -hole-, as prescribed by the Examiner. Applicant respectfully submits that the objection has been obviated, and kindly requests that it be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Therefore, as amended above, all pending claims either are indicated as allowable or depend from an allowable claim. Applicant respectfully submits that the application is in condition for issue, and kindly solicits and early Notice of Allowability. If the Examiner has any reservation in allowing the claims, and believes that a telephone

interview would advance prosecution, he is kindly requested to telephone the undersigned at his earliest convenience.

Respectfully Submitted,



Thomas Spinelli
Registration No. 39,533

SCULLY, SCOTT, MURPHY & PRESSER
400 Garden City Plaza
Garden City, New York 11530
(516) 742-4343
TS:DJT/sf